

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1661

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: MARCH 24 DRC MEETING: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 1134
B. USNATO 1434
C. USNATO 1242
D. USNATO 1386

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING MARCH 24 MEETING, DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE
(DRC) CONSIDERED DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PARAS 53-56 (REF A, B, C).

DRC DIRECTED THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) TO REWRITE THE PRIORITIES
SECTION DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN STANDING FORCES AND MOBILIZABLE
FORCES. THE REQUIREMENT FOR A 3-5 PERCENT ANNUAL INCREASE IN
NATIONAL DEFENSE SPENDING WAS PLACED IN BRACKETS. DRC OBJECTED TO
THE DIRECTIVE THAT NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TAKE COGNIZANCE OF
NATIONAL FORCES NOT COMMITTED TO NATO. THIS DIRECTIVE WAS ALSO
LEFT IN BRACKETS AT US INSISTENCE. DRC AGREED THAT THE DEFENSE
PLANNING SYSTEM SHOULD BE EXAMINED FOR ADEQUACY IN THE LIGHT OF
CONFIDENTIAL

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THE NEW MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE BUT FELT THAT THIS EXAMINATION
SHOULD NOT BE DIRECTED IN THE GUIDANCE ITSELF. IS WILL PREPARE NEW
DRAFT PARAS 53-56 WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS FOR DISCUSSION AT APRIL 8
DRC MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS TO MARCH 24 DRC DISCUSSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS ASKED REPS FOR COMMENTS ON IS AND US PROPOSALS ON PRIORITIES (REF A, PARAS 53-55 AND REF B, PARA 9) AND US PROPOSAL FOR "DIRECTIVES" (REF C). HE SAID IS WOULD DEVELOP AND CIRCULATE "FINAL" DRAFT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. MAIN POINTS OF DISCUSSION FOLLOW.

2. DRC ASKED IS TO REDRAFT PARA 55 TO INDICATE THAT IT EXPRESSED PLANNING PRINCIPLES RATHER THAN PRIORITIES; TO DELETE IMPLICATION OF PRIORITY SEQUENCING AMONG SUBPARAS; AND TO INCLUDE BOTH STANDING FORCES AND MOBILIZATION FORCES.

3. MOST DRC REPS OPPOSED INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENT FOR A 3-5 PERCENT ANNUAL INCREASE IN NATIONAL DEFENSE SPENDING (PARA 56 A(2)). US REP (B/G BOWMAN) INSISTED THAT THE REQUIREMENT BE RETAINED IN BRACKETS.

4. DRC OBJECTED TO DIRECTIVE (REF C, PARA 56B) THAT NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES (NMA'S) TAKE COGNIZANCE OF NATIONAL FORCES NOT COMMITTED TO NATO. SHAPE (COL HOOTEN) AND MC (M/G TOMMASINI) REPS SAID NATIONS DID NOT REPEAT NOT DISCLOSE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR NMA'S TO CONSIDER UNCOMMITTED FORCES IN PLANNING; FRG REP (B/G SCHUNEMANN) SAID DRC SHOULD HAVE CONSIDERED UNCOMMITTED FORCES EARLIER IN GUIDANCE DOCUMENT, IF AT ALL; CANADA (COL SHEFFIELD) AND UK (MCDONALD) REPS SAID DIRECTIVE SHOULD BE REWRITTEN TO TELL NATIONS TO COMMIT MORE FORCES. DRC AGREED TO US REP'S REQUEST THAT SUBPARA 56B(2) REMAIN IN BRACKETS, INCLUDING REQUEST THAT NATIONS PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT UNCOMMITTED FORCES.

5. DRC ASKED IS TO REVISE SUBPARA 56B(5) SO NMA'S COULD SET FORTH "CATEGORIES" OF FORCE PROPOSALS IN DESCENDING ORDER OF PRIORITY. TURKISH REP (TOPUR) ASKED THAT NEXT DRAFT INCLUDE DIRECTIVE THAT NMA'S "TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DEFICIENCIES EXISTING IN THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK WHICH WILL BE AGGRAVATED BY THE IMMINENT SHORTFALL IN THE REINFORCEMENT COMMITMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DEGRADATION OF THE DEFENSE POSTURE OF THE SOUTHERN REGION."

6. SEVERAL REPS QUESTIONED NEED FOR PERM REPS TO EXAMINE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING NATO FORCE PLANNING SYSTEM (SUBPARA 56C(4)). CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS SAID HE DID NOT REPEAT NOT OPPOSE SUCH A REVIEW BUT THAT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WAS NOT PROPER PLACE TO SURFACE ISSUES. UK REP SUGGESTED SYG LUNS CALL FOR REVIEW OF PRESENT FORCE PLANNING SYSTEM IN COVER NOTE WHICH TRANSMITS GUIDANCE DOCUMENT TO PERM REPS. UK AND CANADA REPS ARGUED THAT IS SHOULD MOVE SUBPARA 56C(5) ON SEEKING WAYS FOR PUBLICIZING NATO DEFENSE EFFORTS TO SECTION PROVIDING DIRECTIVES TO NATIONS RATHER THAN PERM REPS.

7. IN CONCLUDING REMARKS, CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS AGREED TO PROVIDE
A NEW DRAFT PARA 56 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT DRC COMMENTS AND
INCLUDING ADDITIONAL AREAS SUCH AS: CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING,
MBFR AND CHARACTERISTICS OF FORCES. IS WILL CIRCULATE NEW
DRAFT IN TIME FOR DISCUSSION AT DRC MEETING ON 8 APRIL.
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